



TEXT ONLY

TESTIMONY
OF THE
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
TO THE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON VETERAN'S AFFAIRS

February 3, 2009

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to testify before this joint committee on issues of concern to towns and cities.

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| Raised Bill 96 | "An Act Concerning Refunds for Taxes Erroneously Collected from Veterans and Relatives" |
| Raised Bill 5070 | "An Act Concerning Property Tax Exemptions for Surviving Parents of a Serviceman or Veteran" |
| Raised Bill 5665 | "An Act Concerning the Municipal Option to Provide and Additional Property Tax Exemption for Veterans" |
| Raised Bill 5039 | "An Act Concerning the Processing of a Veteran's Exemption" |

CCM appreciates the intent of these bills. However, we are concerned that these proposals would have significant fiscal impacts on towns and cities - particularly as local officials struggle to sustain programs and services amidst a recession and growing deficits.

CCM urges the Committee to obtain detailed fiscal notes -- on each of these proposals -- to determine the full potential impact on municipal budgets before taking action on these bills. **In this fiscal climate, the Committee should take no action on any proposals that would hurt municipal revenue or mandate expenditure of local money.**



If you have any questions, please call Bob Labanara or Gian-Carl Casa of CCM, at (203) 498-3000